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STATEMENT OF THE SPOKESMAN OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE,
DECEMBER 18, 1937.

Concerning the deeply regrettable occurrence of the sinking of the American gunboat PANAY through a mistake on the part of the Japanese force, the Imperial Japanese Navy have expressed their profound regret and concern over the matter. In connection with this, they have decided to detail a company of bluejackets on the spot to honor the dead. In the meantime, the members of the Third Fleet of the Japanese Navy, who are stationed in the waters in the vicinity of Shanghai, have decided to collect among themselves a sum of ¥ 5,000, to be contributed towards the Naval Fund of the United States.

The sentiment dominant among the Japanese Navy is that the sinking of a man-of-war, even though by mistake, is a matter to be greatly deplored. They further express their heartfelt appreciation to the American Navy on the spot who are maintaining a calm attitude with regard to the regrettable affair, and it is their earnest hope that this unfortunate occurrence will prove in the end to have served as a step, though grievous in itself, towards a rapprochement and a still closer understanding and mutual sympathy between the Navies of the United States and Japan.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 1 page and entitled "Statement of the Spokesman of the Foreign Office, December 18, 1937." is an exact and true copy an official Document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo.

on this 3rd day of December, 1946.

— (Signed) K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: (Signed) Nagaharu Odo